

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BELIZE 00843 160759Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----104733 160822Z /10
R 151925Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL BELIZE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6621

S E C R E T BELIZE 843

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: UK GUATEMALA NEGOTIATIONS

1. MONDAY AFTERNOON, BRIAN BERRY, NUMBER TWO IN BELIZE HOUSE, BELMOPAN, TOLD ME IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE THAT PRESENT PLANS CALL FOR TALKS ON BELIZE BETWEEN HMG AND GUATEMALA TO RESUME IN NEW YORK ON SEPT 25 AND RUN FOR ABOUT THREE OR FOUR DAYS. HE SAYS IT IS PROBABLE THAT DR. OWEN WILL CHAIR THE BRITISH TEAM.

2. BERRY IS SOMEWHAT TAKEN ABACK THAT PREMIER PRICE HAS NOT YET GIVEN HIS ASSENT TO THE PLAN WHICH WAS PUT TO HIM ON FRIDAY, 11 AUGUST. SENATOR DEAN LINDO, LEADER OF OPPOSITION UDP, IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY, HOWEVER, A PARTY SPOKESMAN READILY ASSENTED. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT UNDER THE TERMS OF

THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOLLOWING THE NEW YORK MEETING BETWEEN OWEN AND PUP AND UDP LAST JUNE BOTH PARTIES WILL BE PRESENT AT ANY TALKS BETWEEN UK AND GUATEMALA. BERRY FEELS AND ONE MUST AGREE WITH HIM THAT THE NEGOTIATION PROCESS WILL NOT BE ANY EASIER. BOTH PARTIES HAVE BEEN SHOWING INCREASING TURBULENCE AND ANTAGONISM IN MEETINGS TO DISCUSS A COMMON POSITION. GOV. MCENTEE PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN OVER THIS AND

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PAGE 02 BELIZE 00843 160759Z

BERRY CONFIRMS IT.

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS DESIRED TO GUATEMALA CITY AND LONDON.
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Message Attributes

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